DC
GRAY • PALMIOTTI • CONNER
POWER GIRL
7
FEB '10
...STAND AND MEET YOUR MATE, VARTOX OF VALERON!
CONNER...NOUNTS after CARDY
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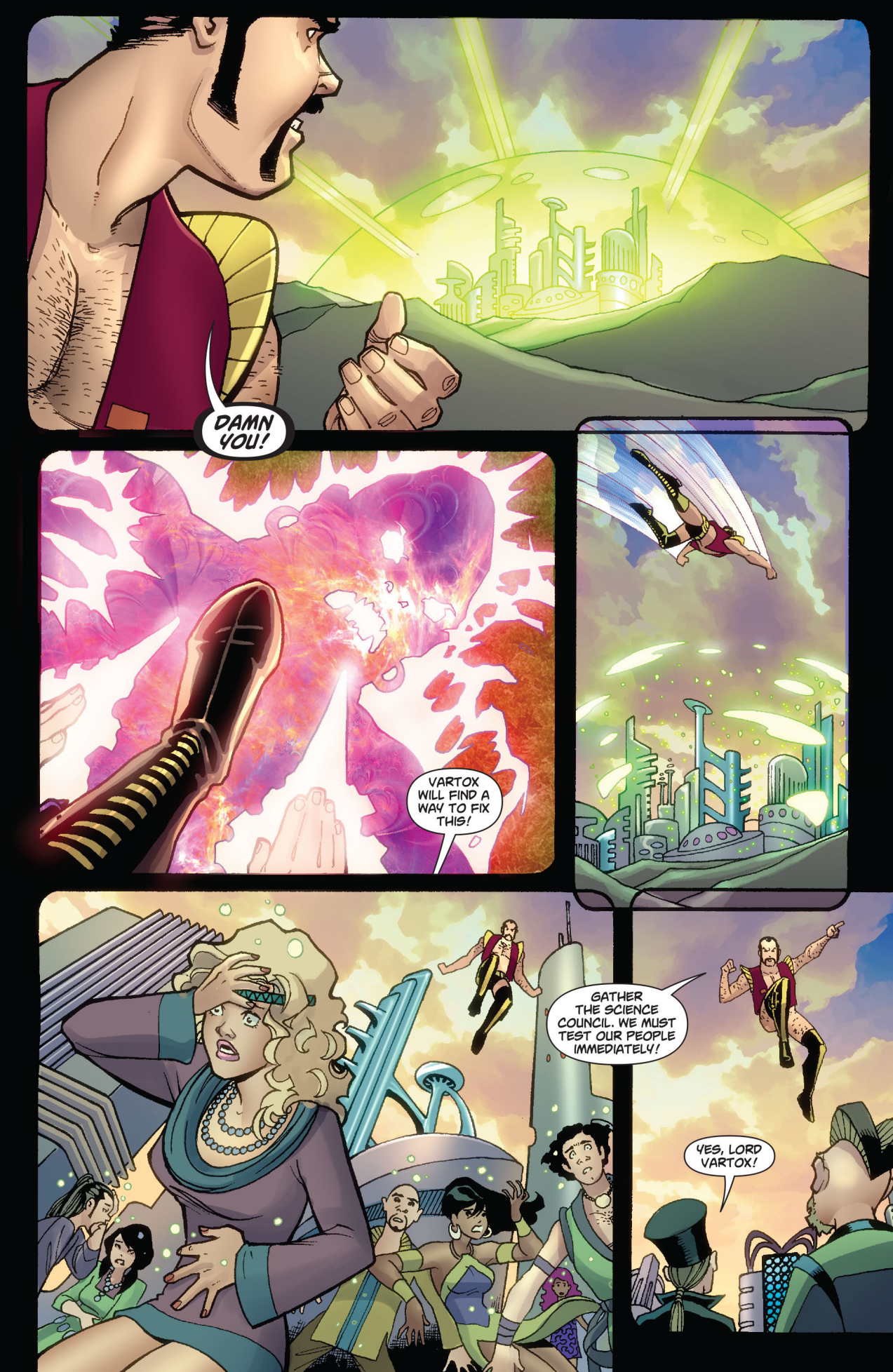
PLANET VALERON, THE OUTLANDS.
LET THOSE WHO WOULD THREATEN HIS PEOPLE TASTE THE RAW DESTRUCTIVE POWER OF VARTOX THE HYPER-MAN!
YOU WILL DIE, TYNOLAN SCUM!
NO, KASHKAVON BRUTES!
IT IS YOU WHO WILL DIE SO THAT THE PEACEFUL MIGHT LIVE!
CONVERSION BY WILDSTORM

FOOLISH YETI PIRATES...
HEH...YOU LOSE, VARTOX!
IT DOESN'T APPEAR THAT WAY TO ME.
WE SACRIFICED OURSELVES. ANY MOMENT NOW OUR HUNTERS WILL DETONATE A CONTRACEPTIVE BOMB IN THE HEART OF CRYSTAL CITY.
YOUR PEOPLE WILL DIE WHILE WE CONTINUE TO PROSPER AND CLAIM THE PLANET!
NO!


DAMN YOU!
VARTOX WILL FIND A WAY TO FIX THIS!
GATHER THE SCIENCE COUNCIL. WE MUST TEST OUR PEOPLE IMMEDIATELY!
YES, LORD VARTOX!

LUST IN SPACE!

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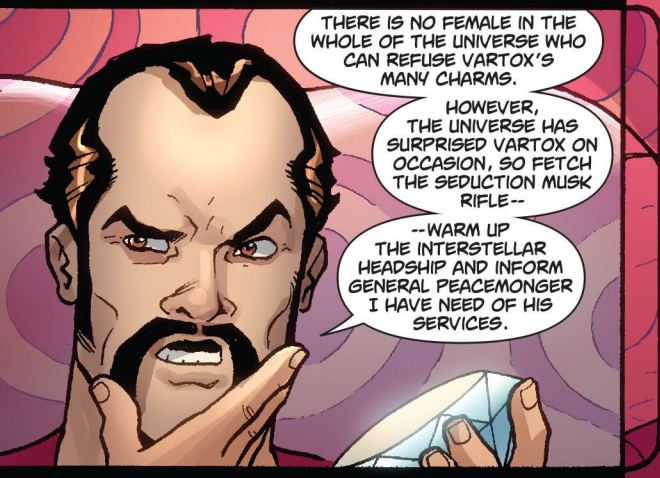
THE PLANET VALERON... SEVERAL DAYS LATER.

LORD, THE COUNCIL HAS DETERMINED THAT OUR PEOPLE HAVE ALL BEEN STERILIZED.

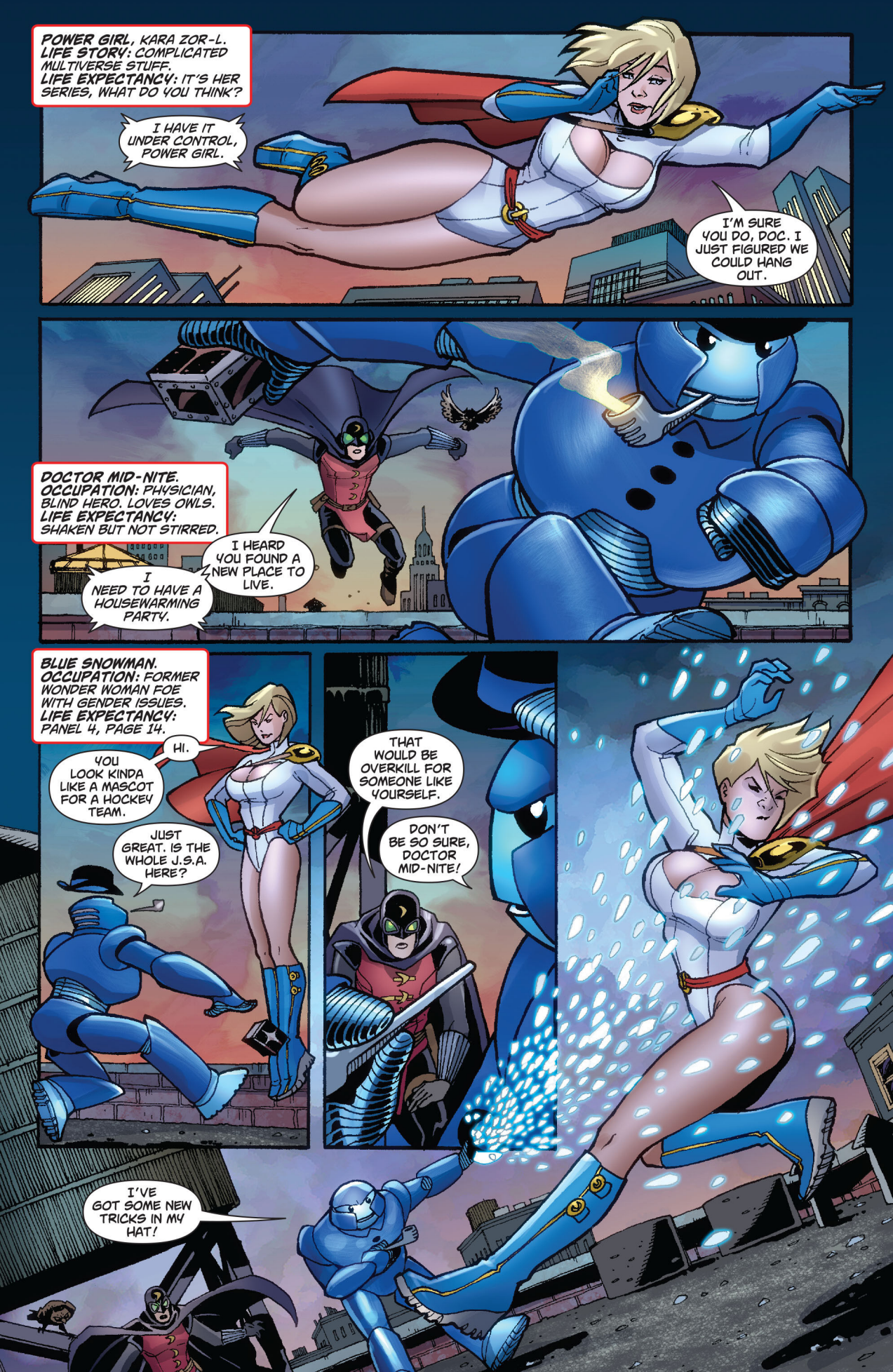
THERE WILL BE NO FUTURE GENERATIONS.
VARTOX IS AWARE OF THIS, CHANCELLOR GROOVICUS MELLOW.
VARTOX HAS A PLAN. THE COSMOSIS CRYSTALIS HAS DELIVERED UNTO VARTOX A HANDFUL OF POTENTIAL FEMALES WITH WHOM VARTOX WILL MATE.
WHICH SHALL YOU CHOOSE?

VARTOX HAS CHOSEN THE FAIR-HAIRED BEAUTY WHOSE PHYSICAL ENDOWMENTS BEST COMPLEMENT HIS OWN.
EVEN MORE IMPRESSIVE IS THAT SHE AND SHE ALONE SURVIVED THE DEATH OF THE UNIVERSE. SUCH GENETIC LINEAGE WILL BRING A NEW AGE TO THE PEOPLE OF VALERON!

BUT SIRE, NOT TO BE A DRAG, BUT SHOULD THERE NOT BE ALTERNATIVE CHOICES IN THE EVENT THE CHOSEN CHOOSES NOT TO CHOOSE YOU?
HA! HA! HA! VARTOX ENJOYS YOUR SENSE OF HUMOR, CHANCELLOR.


THERE IS NO FEMALE IN THE WHOLE OF THE UNIVERSE WHO CAN REFUSE VARTOX'S MANY CHARMS.
HOWEVER, THE UNIVERSE HAS SURPRISED VARTOX ON OCCASION, SO FETCH THE SEDUCTION MUSK RIFLE--
--WARM UP THE INTERSTELLAR HEADSHIP AND INFORM GENERAL PEACEMONGER I HAVE NEED OF HIS SERVICES.

GENERAL PEACEMONGER? I DON'T UNDERSTAND.
VARTOX DOESN'T EXPECT YOU TO UNDERSTAND THE WORKINGS OF A HYPER-MIND.
JUST DO AS VARTOX SAYS. SALVATION IS AT HAND.


POWER GIRL, KARA ZOR-L. LIFE STORY: COMPLICATED MULTIVERSE STUFF. LIFE EXPECTANCY: IT'S HER SERIES, WHAT DO YOU THINK?
I HAVE IT UNDER CONTROL, POWER GIRL.
I'M SURE YOU DO, DOC. I JUST FIGURED WE COULD HANG OUT.
DOCTOR MID-NITE. OCCUPATION: PHYSICIAN, BLIND HERO. LOVES OWLS. LIFE EXPECTANCY: SHAKEN BUT NOT STIRRED.
I HEARD YOU FOUND A NEW PLACE TO LIVE.
I NEED TO HAVE A HOUSEWARMING PARTY.
BLUE SNOWMAN. OCCUPATION: FORMER WONDER WOMAN FOE WITH GENDER ISSUES. LIFE EXPECTANCY: PANEL 4, PAGE 14.
HI.
YOU LOOK KINDA LIKE A MASCOT FOR A HOCKEY TEAM.
JUST GREAT. IS THE WHOLE J.S.A. HERE?
THAT WOULD BE OVERKILL FOR SOMEONE LIKE YOURSELF.
DON'T BE SO SURE, DOCTOR MID-NITE!
I'VE GOT SOME NEW TRICKS IN MY HAT!

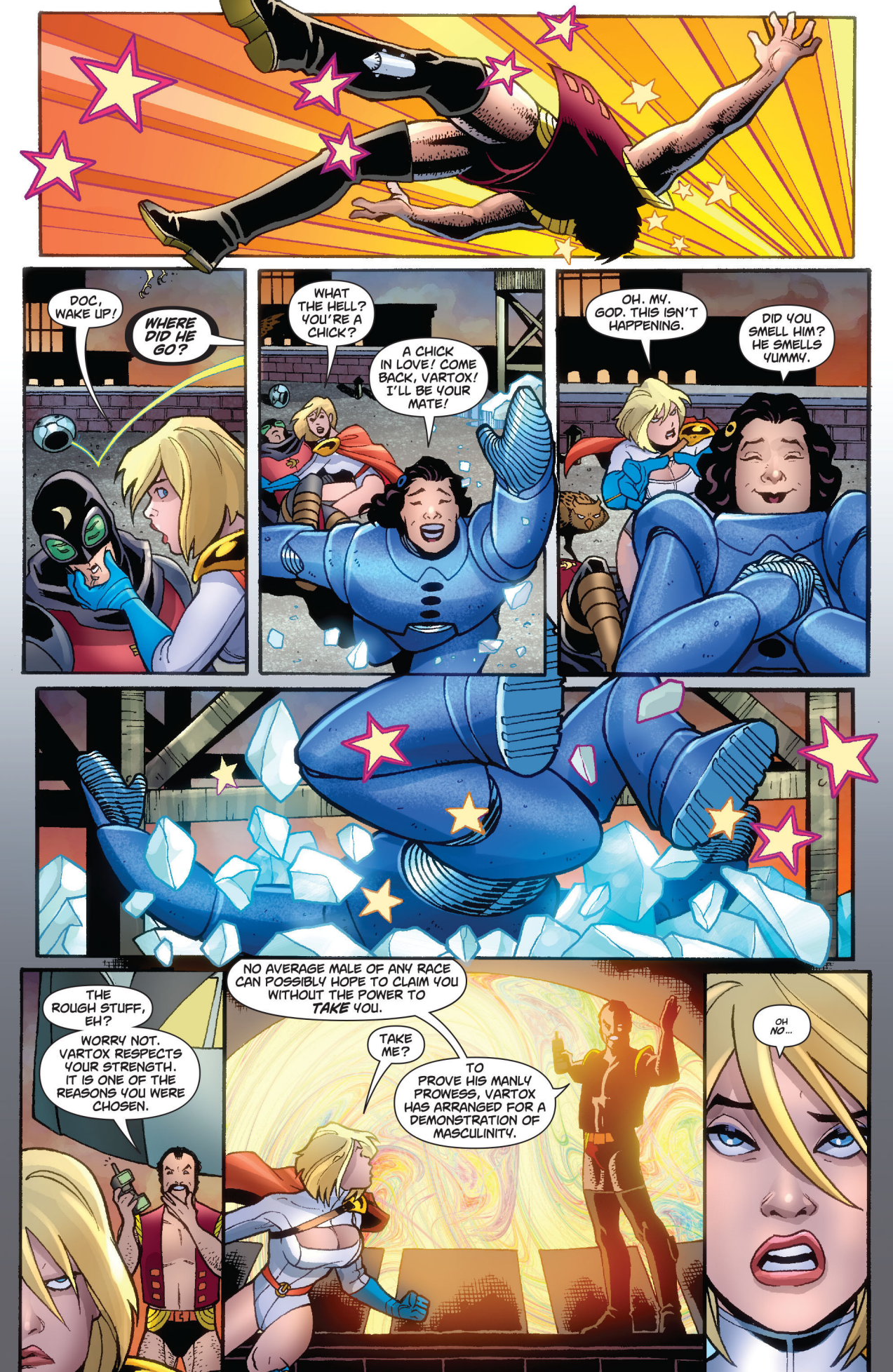
AND I'M HERE TO MAKE A POINT! THE BLUE SNOWMAN IS FOR REAL!
YOU SHOULD HAVE STUCK WITH THE ICE PACK.
THEY KICKED ME OUT! CAN YOU BELIEVE IT? SAID I WASN'T COOL ENOUGH TO HANG WITH THEM!
PLEASE... STOP... TALKING.
CRISSHHH

THERE SHOULD BE SOME KIND OF THERAPY GROUP FOR PEOPLE LIKE THIS.
YEAH, ALTHOUGH THIS TECHNOLOGY IS INTERESTING.
PRETTY ADVANCED AND IT PROBABLY COSTS MORE THAN THE SAPPHIRE IS WORTH.
THAT'S THE THING I DON'T UNDERSTAND. I GET THE JOKER, HE'S CRAZY, LOVES CHAOS, BLAH, BLAH.
THE NUTS FROM OUTER SPACE, THEY WANT TO RULE THE PLANET, UNIVERSE, WHATEVER...
THEN YOU GET THESE BLUE SNOWMAN TYPES.
THEY'LL SPEND A MILLION CREATING A HAT THAT SHOOTS WEATHER JUST TO STEAL SOMETHING WORTH HALF A MILLION.
THEY'RE MISGUIDED SOULS, I SUPPOSE.
NOW WHAT?
THAT CAN'T BE GOOD.
NO, IT REALLY CAN'T.

VARTOX HAS TRAVERSED THE COSMOS ON A MISSION OF LOVE! THE OBJECT OF VARTOX'S AFFECTIONS...
... IS *YOU*! KARA ZOR-L!
OH... NO...

VERNON O'VALERON A.K.A. VARTOX. OCCUPATION: SEXY SUPER STUD FROM PLANET VALERON. LIFE EXPECTANCY: WAITING TO HEAR BACK FROM THE EDITORS.
COME FORTH AND EXPERIENCE ALL VARTOX HAS TO OFFER.
NOT THAT I'M LOOKING FOR ONE, BUT WHY CAN'T A NICE GUY FALL OUT OF THE SKY?
HE MIGHT BE NICE. A BIT EGOCENTRIC WITH THE FLYING HEAD AND ALL, BUT YOU NEVER KNOW.
OH I KNOW THIS ISN'T GOING TO END WELL.
PLAYING HARD TO GET, EH?
VARTOX LIKES THAT IN A FEMALE.
UNFORTUNATELY VARTOX DOESN'T HAVE THE TIME FOR A LENGTHY COURTSHIP.
SEE? NOW HE'S SHOOTING AT US.
SHOULD I POINT OUT THE OBVIOUS METAPHOR OF THE GUN?
I'D RATHER YOU DIDN'T.

SMELLS FUNNY, LIKE BURNT ARMPIT HAIR AND ELEPHANT URINE...
I SMELL SOMETHING DIFFER...
DOC?
DOC, ARE YOU OKAY? TALK TO ME!
BASK IN THE SEDUCTION MUSK DISTILLED FROM TEARS OF THE GHOST POETS OF DIMENSION SEVEN...
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO HIM?
HMNN, THE MALE WASN'T SUPPOSED TO INHALE THE SEDUCTION MUSK. HE MIGHT BE DEAD. OR BLIND. OR SLEEPING. VARTOX ISN'T SURE.
I CAN HEAR HIS HEART BEATING! HE'S ALREADY BLIND! WHAT DID YOU DO?
HE'S ALIVE. EXCELLENT. LETS MOVE ALONG WITH THE COURTSHIP.
THERE'S NO COURTSHIP, YOU FREAK! I AM NOT INTERESTED.
SHE IS IMMUNE TO THE MUSK...
WAIT... YOU SHOT COLOGNE AT ME?
IT SHOULD HAVE MADE YOU MORE ACCESSIBLE.
ACCESSIBLE? GET BACK IN THAT FLYING HEAD THING AND LEAVE OR I'M GOING TO...
SHHH, VARTOX KNOWS THIS MUST BE OVERWHELMING. TO HAVE ONE SUCH AS VARTOX SPAN THE GALAXIES TO CHOOSE YOU AS HIS MATE...


DOC, WAKE UP!
WHERE DID HE GO?
WHAT THE HELL? YOU'RE A CHICK?
A CHICK IN LOVE! COME BACK, VARTOX! I'LL BE YOUR MATE!
OH. MY. GOD. THIS ISN'T HAPPENING.
DID YOU SMELL HIM? HE SMELLS YUMMY.
THE ROUGH STUFF, EH?
WORRY NOT. VARTOX RESPECTS YOUR STRENGTH. IT IS ONE OF THE REASONS YOU WERE CHOSEN.
NO AVERAGE MALE OF ANY RACE CAN POSSIBLY HOPE TO CLAIM YOU WITHOUT THE POWER TO TAKE YOU.
TAKE ME?
TO PROVE HIS MANLY PROWESS, VARTOX HAS ARRANGED FOR A DEMONSTRATION OF MASCULINITY.
OH NO...

WHAT IS THAT?
THAT IS AN *IX NEGASPIKE*, THE LAST OF ITS SPECIES, WHICH UNTIL RECENTLY WAS IMPRISONED IN A GRAVITY WELL BENEATH THE KNOWN UNIVERSES.
THEY ARE MINDLESS, VORACIOUS EATERS...
THIS ONE DEVOURED A PLANET BEFORE AN ENTIRE GALAXY'S WORTH OF SUPERWARRIORS MANAGED TO IMPRISON IT. NONE OF THEM SURVIVED, OF COURSE, BUT...
ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND? HOW CAN YOU BRING THAT THING TO EARTH!?!?!

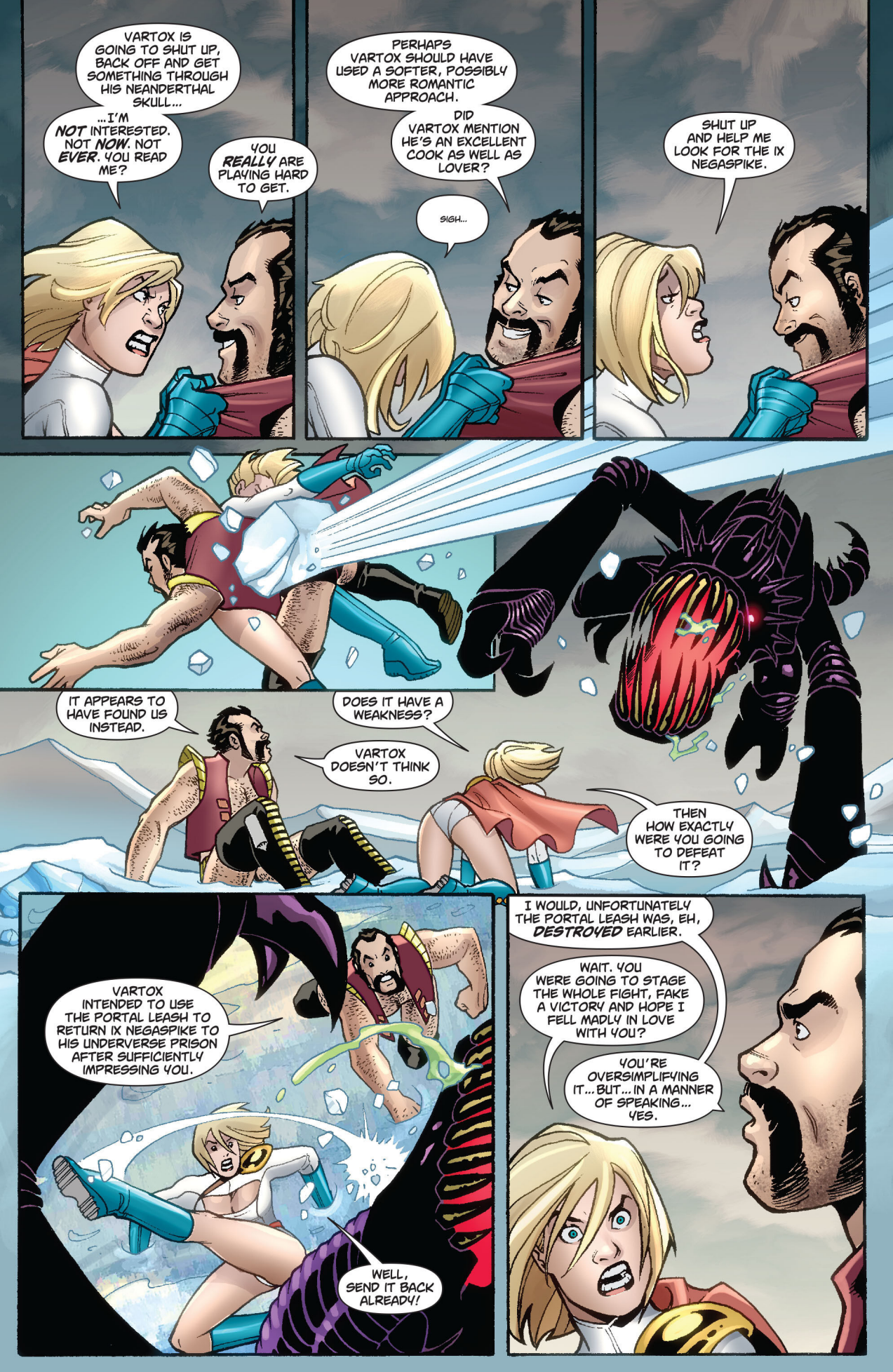
TO PROVE--
I WILL DEFEND YOU, VARTOX MY LOVE!
GRRRUUHHHH?
UH...
GHHHHH-RRRRAAAA-GGGHHH!!!
HEEEELP!
THAT WAS UNFORTUNATE.
IT ATE BLUE SNOWMAN! IN TWO SECONDS IT... DEVOURED HER!
I BELIEVE I MENTIONED THE VORACIOUS APPETITE...
I'LL BE RIGHT BACK. THAT THING'S NOT EATING DOCTOR MID-NITE.
DO HURRY, YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS VARTOX'S TRIUMPHANT--

THE TRANSPORT LEASH DESTROYED?
THIS ISN'T PART OF THE PLAN.

IF THIS THING REALLY IS AS DANGEROUS AS VARTOX CLAIMS, I NEED TO GET IT OUT OF THE CITY.
ANY CHANCE I CAN GET YOU TO LEAVE QUIETLY?
HEY, WHERE'S TALL, BALD AND STUPID? DID YOU EAT HIM?
GRRRAAAAAHHHHH!!!
WHUUFF!
HERRR! HERR! HERR!
ARE YOU LAUGHING?
I FELT THAT...
SKKEEEE!
UH OH.

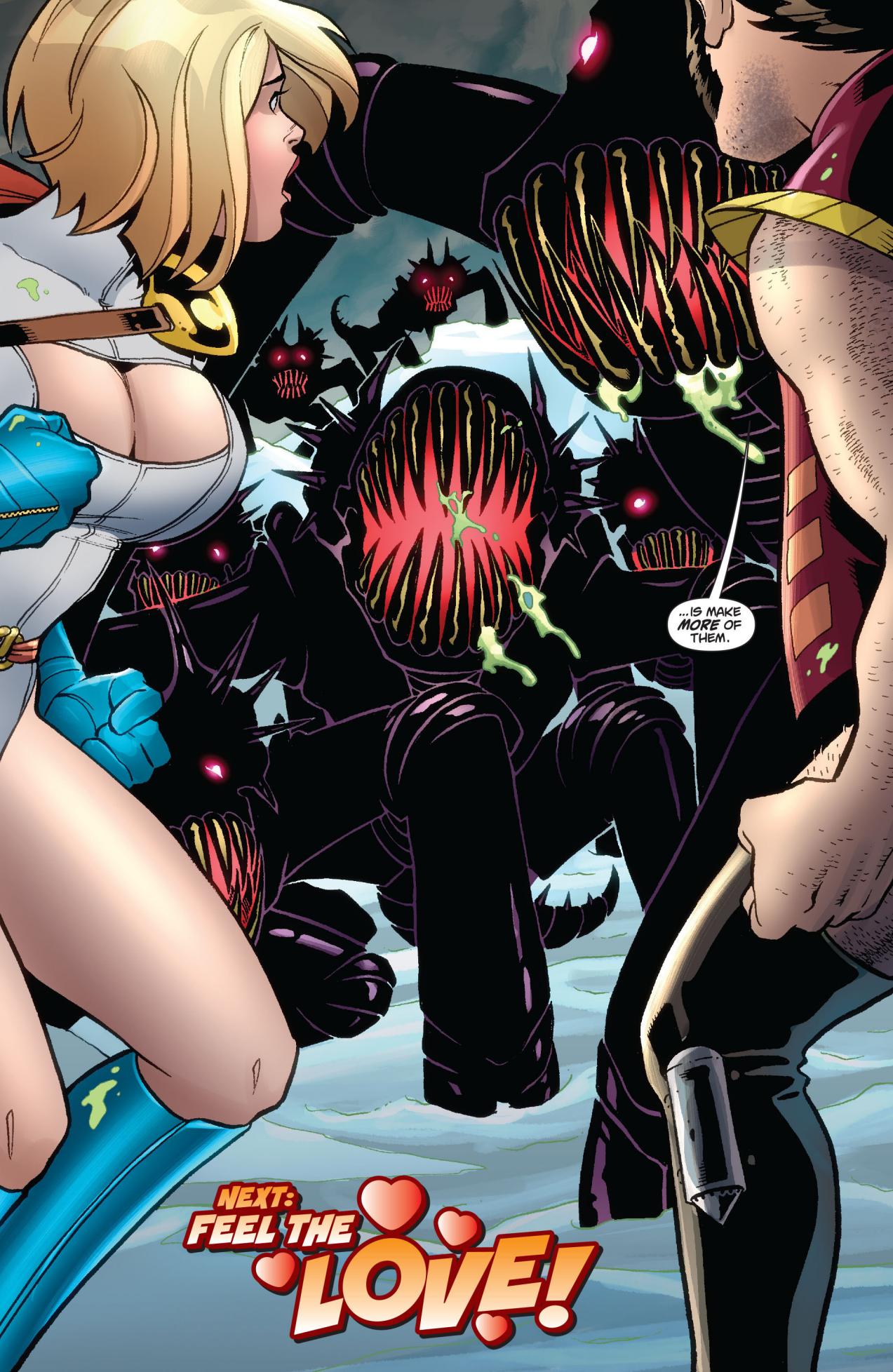
DISGUSTING.
OWW.
YOU'RE NOT GONNA EAT ME!
FEAR NOT! VARTOX HAS THE BEAST CONTAINED!
OH, I THOUGHT IT ATE YOU.
VARTOX NOTES THE CONCERN IN YOUR VOICE AND IS TOUCHED.
VARTOX IS TOUCHED ALL RIGHT.
BOK

COME ON, UGLY.
WE'RE OUT OF HERE!
GRUNNK!
SHUSH!
GRUUUNKKK!
QUIT COMPLAINING!
TOP OF THE NINTH INNING... AAAANNND... THAAAAA PITCH!
IT'S A FASTBALL OVER THE PLATE!
STEERIKE!
BAAA-THOOOOMMMM
YOU DON'T SEEM TO UNDERSTAND HOW THIS WORKS. VARTOX IS--


VARTOX IS GOING TO SHUT UP, BACK OFF AND GET SOMETHING THROUGH HIS NEANDERTHAL SKULL...
...I'M NOT INTERESTED. NOT NOW. NOT EVER. YOU READ ME?
YOU REALLY ARE PLAYING HARD TO GET.
PERHAPS VARTOX SHOULD HAVE USED A SOFTER, POSSIBLY MORE ROMANTIC APPROACH.
DID VARTOX MENTION HE'S AN EXCELLENT COOK AS WELL AS LOVER?
SIGH...
SHUT UP AND HELP ME LOOK FOR THE IX NEGASPIKE.
IT APPEARS TO HAVE FOUND US INSTEAD.
DOES IT HAVE A WEAKNESS?
VARTOX DOESN'T THINK SO.
THEN HOW EXACTLY WERE YOU GOING TO DEFEAT IT?
VARTOX INTENDED TO USE THE PORTAL LEASH TO RETURN IX NEGASPIKE TO HIS UNDERVERSE PRISON AFTER SUFFICIENTLY IMPRESSING YOU.
WELL, SEND IT BACK ALREADY!
I WOULD, UNFORTUNATELY THE PORTAL LEASH WAS, EH, DESTROYED EARLIER.
WAIT. YOU WERE GOING TO STAGE THE WHOLE FIGHT, FAKE A VICTORY AND HOPE I FELL MADLY IN LOVE WITH YOU?
YOU'RE OVERSIMPLIFYING IT... BUT... IN A MANNER OF SPEAKING... YES.

YOU'RE A FRAUD!
HOW COULD I POSSIBLY, EVEN IF I FOUND YOU ATTRACTIVE--
--WHICH I DON'T--
--RESPECT A MAN WHO UNLEASHES A PLANET-EATING MONSTER ON INNOCENT PEOPLE TO IMPRESS A GIRL!?!?!
VARTOX IS NOT TOO BIG TO ADMIT A MISTAKE WAS MADE...
STOP REFERRING TO YOURSELF IN THE THIRD PERSON! IT'S ANNOYING!
OKAY, SO WHY ME?
VARTO-- I--THINK YOU'RE A VERY ATTRACTIVE FEMALE.
THANKS, I GUESS, BUT I'M A PERSON WHO HAPPENS TO BE FEMALE. I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE GIRLS ARE LIKE ON VALERON...
THEY THROW THEMSELVES AT ME WITH RECKLESS ABANDON.
GOOD FOR YOU.
WE CAN'T EVEN SLOW THIS THING DOWN.
IT IS INDESTRUCTIBLE.
WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT...

ADIOS, SPACE MONSTER.
NO! DON'T!
OKAY, DEAD MONSTER MEANS YOU GO BACK TO WHATEVER CORNER OF THE UNIVERSE YOU BELONG TO.
YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE DONE THAT.
DONE WHAT? KICK SOME INDESTRUCTIBLE MONSTER BUTT?
I REALIZE THAT WAS PART OF YOUR IDIOTIC MASTER PLAN TO SEDUCE ME, BUT LIKE I SAID...
I REPEATEDLY EXPLAINED THE IX NEGASPIKE CANNOT BE KILLED.
SINCE IT IS A SELF-REPLICATING, ASEXUAL CREATURE ALL YOU'VE MANAGED TO DO...

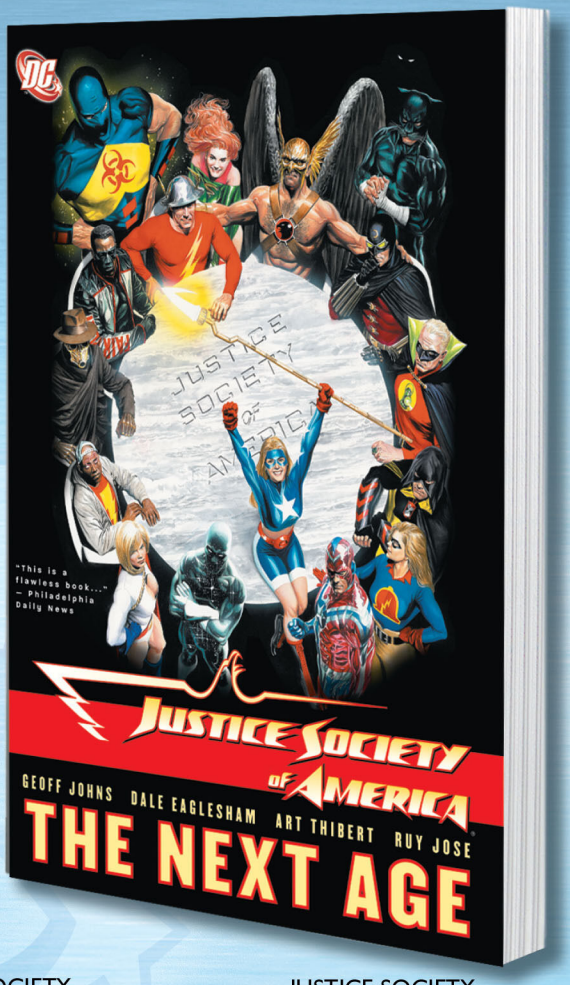

...IS MAKE MORE OF THEM.
NEXT: FEEL THE LOVE!

FROM THE WRITER OF
GREEN LANTERN *AND* SUPERMAN

GEOFF JOHNS

with DALE EAGLESHAM

"This is a flawless book."
– PHILADELPHIA DAILY NEWS



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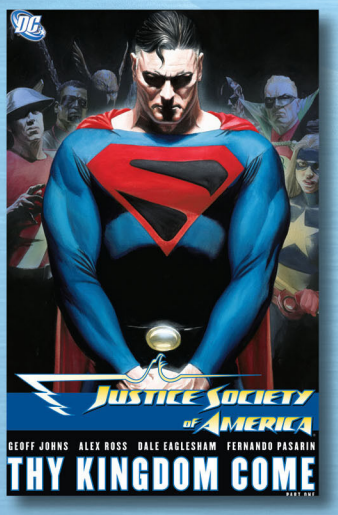
THY KINGDOM COME PART 1



with
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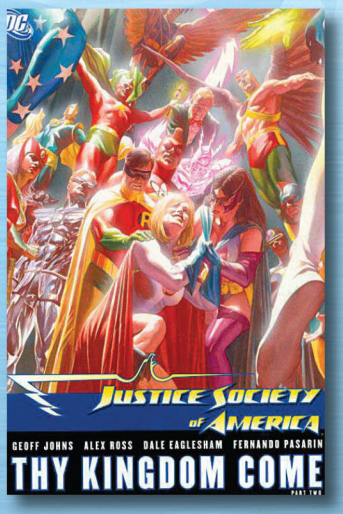

with
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JUSTICE SOCIETY
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